

Case 7471

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Matter of:

#3A
NEAL

U.S. National Phase Entry
Under 35 USC § 371 from
the International Application of :
MORT, Paul R., III :
Int'l Application No. PCT/US00/05983 :
Filed in the RO/US on 08 March 2000 :
Entitled: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING COATED
DETERGENT PARTICLES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.112

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Dear Sir:

Prior to Examination and computation of the fees for entering the captioned International Application into the U.S. National Phase, please preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following Remarks.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims as follows:

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3. The process as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said blend of anionic surfactant and dry detergent ingredients is selected from the group consisting of detergent agglomerates, spray-dried particles, detergent flakes and mixtures thereof.
4. The process as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said coating mixer is selected from the group consisting of low speed mixers, fluid bed mixers, and combinations thereof.
5. The process as claimed in Claim 4 wherein said coating mixer is an fluid bed mixer.
6. The process as claimed in Claim 5, wherein said water soluble, non-hydrating inorganic material is selected from the group consisting of alkali metal carbonate salts, alkali metal sulfate salts and mixtures thereof.